

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

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R 081705Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO USMISSION NATO

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SECDEF WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2744

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP MARR NATO GR

SUBJ: COLLOCATED BASE BRIEFING FOR DPC

REF A. NATO 2422 B. ATHENS 2006 C. STATE 086723 D. NATO 2480

1. DISCUSSION IN NATO OF GENERAL US DESIRE TO IDENTIFY BASES FOR INTRODUCTION OF US AUGMENTATION SQUADRONS IN EMERGENCY OR CONFLICT SITUATION, FOLLOWED BY MENTION BY USAF BRIEFERS IN MAY 2 DPC BRIEFING OF FIVE SPECIFIC CANDIDATE BASES WITHIN GREECE, MIGHT WELL LEAD GOG TO REQUIRE SOME FORM OF AGREEMENT FOR POSSIBLE USE OF THESE BASES. CURRENT NEGOTIATION ON SOUDA AB REVOLVES AROUND GOG INTRODUCTION OF CHANGES TO BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS (INCLUDING NATO SOFA) WHICH USG UNWILLING TO ENTERTAIN IN CONTEXT OF ARRANGEMENT ON OPERATING RIGHTS AT SPECIFIC BASE. THESE UNACCEPTABLE PROVISIONS ARE MIRRORED IN PART IN GOG DRAFT ON MAWTC AT TIMBAKION, WHICH, ALONG WITH OTHER INDICATIONS, SUGGESTS THAT ANY ADDITIONAL BASE RIGHTS PROBLEMS RAISED AT THIS TIME WITH GOG WILL BE SIMILARLY ENCUMBERED.

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2. EFFORT TO INDUCE RECEIVING STATES TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN AIR BASES FOR COLLOCATING OF AUGMENTATION SQUADRONS SEEMS TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE MOMENTUM. CONTINUATION IN NATO MILITARY CHANNELS OF ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN GOG CONCURRENCE IN IDENTIFYING THESE BASES MIGHTACHIEVE DESIRD END, PARTICULARLY IF THE PROJECTED USE OF BASES ONLY FOR NATO-EARMARKED OR NATO-ASSIGNED ELEMENTS IN TIME OF NATO ALERT OR NATO CONFLICT PERCEIVED BY GOG AS EXCLUSIVE PURPOSE FOR WHICH US FORCES WOULD WISH TO USE BASES.

3. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY CONTINUES TO BELIEVE IT PREFERABLE THAT IT NOT RAISE WITH GOG ADDITIONAL BASING ISSUES DURING ITS ONGOING EFFORT TO BRING GOG DEMANDS AND EXPECTATIONS BACK TO REASONABLE LEVELS IN SOUDA AB/HOMEPORTING CONTEXT, IT OUGHT TO HAVE AVAILABLE WHATEVER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO GOG IN THE EVENT LATTER TIES ISSUES OR RAISES IN ANY WAY COLLOCATED BASING PROGRAM. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT GOG REPRESENTATIVE RECEIVED COPY OF TEXT OF BRIEFING PRESENTED TO DPC MAY 2, AND IN LIGHT OF CIRCUMSTANCES MENTIONED ABOVE, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING COPY OF TEXT OF BRIEFING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
TASCA

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